

Weekly Status & Information Report: May 16 - 20, 2011

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of May 23, 2011:

- City Council meeting, Monday, May 23, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium (closed session vote at 6 p.m.)
- Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs hearing, Tuesday, May 24, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Arts and Humanities Commission meeting, Tuesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room
- Facade Advisory Board meeting, Tuesday, May 24, 7 p.m. (location to be announced)
- Takoma Junction Task Force meeting, Thursday, May 26, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, Friday, May 27, 8:30 a.m. in the Hydrangea Room

All meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. Contact jessiec@takomagov.org to check for cancellations or for additional information. *(City Clerk)*

2. Redistricting Task Force Members Needed: The City Council is recruiting volunteers to serve on a Redistricting Task Force. The Task Force will be charged with applying the 2010 Takoma Park census block data to evaluate the population distribution within the six wards and make recommendations to the City Council as to whether redistricting is needed and, if so, to provide options for revised ward boundaries. Please contact Jessie Carpenter at jessiec@takomagov.org or 301-891-7267. *(City Clerk)*

3. City Receives Additional Tax Duplication Funds: On Thursday, the Montgomery County Council voted to restore municipal tax duplication funds that the County Executive had proposed to cut by 5% as part of the FY 2012 County budget. In addition, the Council increased the Takoma Park police payment by the same rate that the Montgomery County Police Department budget was increased. As a result, the City of Takoma Park will receive \$137,377 more in County funds than it had expected for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2011. Takoma Park Councilmember testimony and lobbying by the City Manager, Deputy City Manager and Police Chief helped restore these funds. Because of this, the Takoma Park City Council will be able to consider this added revenue as it makes final City budget decisions at the Monday, May 23 Council meeting. The City of Takoma Park deeply appreciates the actions of Council President Valerie Ervin, GO Committee Chair Nancy Navarro, and the full County Council. *(Deputy City Manager)*

4. Flower Avenue: The annexation into Takoma Park of the full width of the Flower Avenue right-of-way from Piney Branch Road to just south of Division Street has become effective. A charter amendment to replace the City boundary description in the City Charter with the adjusted description will now move forward. Planning for the design of the street and sidewalk improvements will begin this summer. *(Deputy City Manager)*

5. Parking Lot Improvement: Safe Routes to School completed an infrastructure improvement to the parking lot at Takoma Park Middle School. Some drivers were ignoring the clearly marked route for parents dropping off students in the parking lot, putting walkers and

bikers at considerable risk. With funding from Safe Kids Montgomery County and Montgomery County Public Schools, a permanent curbed area was created to block through traffic. The space was landscaped with plants compatible with the rest of the area. (*Housing and Community Development*)

6. Skateboarding Safety: Middle school students and their parents have been invited on Monday, May 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. to an event at Takoma Park Middle School (TPMS) which will focus on skateboarding safety. TPMS Principal Renay Johnson estimates as many as 30 students skate board to school daily. Plans include discussions of safe practices, do it yourself projects, rules and regulations. Food from Chipotle and give-aways from Vans Off the Wall will make the event fun for all! (*Housing and Community Development*)

7. A Different Kind of Rodeo: On Thursday, May 26, Safe Routes to School has invited teachers, parents and members of the Takoma Park Police Department to attend a training by the Washington Area Bicycle Association on conducting a Bicycle Rodeo. With trained instructors and a trailer of bikes and props borrowed from WABA, SRTS can offer Bike Rodeos at area schools and community events. (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. Tuesday! Public Hearing - Takoma/Langley Sector Plan (Ward 6): The Montgomery County Council will be holding a Public Hearing on May 24 in Rockville to hear comments on the May 2010 draft of the Takoma/Langley Crossroads Sector Plan. To sign up to testify, call 240-777-7803. For more information, see:
<http://www.thenewwave.com/development/visions-and-plans/tlc-sector-plan-county-council-review>. (*Housing and Community Development*)

9. Financial Management Classes Starting May 25: Do you want to better manage your finances? Here is an opportunity for you to join us in this series of three classes starting on Wednesday, May 25 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center.

- May 25-"Getting To Know The Financial YOU"
- June 8-"Changing The Way You Think About \$"
- June 22-"Thinking Like An Investor"

The classes are free, but you must pre-register by calling 301-891-7222. (*Housing and Community Development*)

10. Tenant Rights Class - June 15: Be in control by knowing your rights under the Takoma Park Landlord-Tenant Law. This class will focus on such issues as security deposits, how to file a formal complaint regarding work that needs to be done in your rental unit, when is it legal for a landlord to enter your apartment, and any other question that you may have about your rights as a tenant. The class will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Pre-register by calling 301-891-7215. (*Housing and Community Development*)

11. Seniors Learn About Wildlife Research: On May 12, seniors traveled by Recreation Bus to the Patuxent Research Refuge National Wildlife Center in Laurel, Maryland. They enjoyed a presentation about the important research and work being done at the Refuge, and staff's successful efforts to save species, such as the whooping crane, by breeding and re-introducing them into the wild. The group then boarded the tram for a half hour guided tour through forest,

meadows, and wetlands around the National Wildlife Visitor Center. Afterwards, seniors explored the beautiful interactive displays inside the center, and experienced the sights and sounds of wildlife as they explored wildlife habitats outside the center. *(Recreation)*

12. Seniors Visit Opening Day at Crossroads Farmers Market: The Takoma Park Recreation Department and Crossroads Farmers Market, Inc. co-sponsored bus transportation for residents to the market on Wednesday, May 18. The bus will run every Wednesday (except June 8) until October 26. For more information about the market, call 301-891-7244 or crossroadsmarket@gmail.com. Pick-up/drop-off time and location flyers are available in the Senior Room, and posted in the Takoma Park Community Center at 7500 Maple Avenue. *(Recreation)*

13. COPS (Community Outreach Police) Comes to Kidz City: The COPS program came to Kidz City on Tuesday, May 17th. Officer Carla Magnaye spoke to participants and assisted with their homework and passing out snacks. All of the kids enjoyed having her there and look forward to weekly visits from the Takoma Park Police. *(Recreation)*

14. Summer Time and the Living is Easy: Summer is almost here, have you started thinking about camp? Camps are filling quickly! Go to takomaparkmd.gov/recreation and check out the Summer Camps guide to see all of the exciting camp offerings we have this summer. *(Recreation)*

15. Wiffle Ball (4th of July & Family League): Summer is almost here, and that means only one thing – families and friends getting out, getting exercise, having fun, being together! The Takoma Park Recreation Department, Recreation Committee, and Independence Day Committee are partnering to bring you a childhood classic – Wiffle Ball. Please contact the Recreation Department for more information on the 4th of July Tournament and the Family Wiffle Ball League at (301) 891-7290. *(Recreation)*

16. Girls Lacrosse Clinic: The Takoma Park Lacrosse Clinic began on Wednesday, May 18. A total of 11 girls participated in the program. Each participant took part in drills geared to enhance skills such as passing, catching and scooping. Clinic will continue next Wednesday, May 23, 2011. *(Recreation)*

17. T-Ball League - Only 18 Spaces Left!: Parents, don't miss out on the opportunity for your child to learn the game of baseball, meet new friends and have FUN as this program will sell out! Games will be played at Belle Ziegler and Lee Jordan Fields. The T-Ball program is open to all girls and boys in grades K-1. To register online go to: www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation. For additional details call Lew McAllister 301.891.7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

18. Y.E.S. League - Only a Month Away!: The 2011 "Youth Exposed to Success" summer basketball league is right around the corner. Teams are now being formed; don't miss your chance to participate in the ultimate summer league. All players will have the opportunity take advantage of an open "High School style" basketball practice Monday - Thursday from 6:00 - 7:30 pm and open gym will be Monday - Thursday from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Practice and

Open gym will be held at Piney Branch gym (7510 Maple Avenue). Team and individual registrations are being accepted and are open to girls and boys grades 5-8 and 9-12 (must be entering grade in fall 2011). For more information please contact Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

19. Book Sale: Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held TOMORROW – Saturday, May 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Library lawn. More books than ever at bargain prices! *(Library)*

20. Madame Marie: Join us in the Library at 10:30 a.m. for French Circle Time with Madame Marie. This event is for young children and their families. Funded by the Friends of the Library. *(Library)*

21. Banned Books: Junior Banned Books Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 23, for a discussion of “A Wrinkle in Time” by Madeleine L’Engle, and the Banned Books club will meet at 7:30 p.m. to discuss “The Hunger Games” by Suzanne Collins. Both programs are supported by the Friends of the Library. *(Library)*

22. National Book Award Winner: The Friends Reading Group will discuss the 2010 National Book Award winner for non-fiction, “Just Kids”, by Patti Smith on July 28. The semi-autobiographical memoir focuses on the author’s 20 year friendship with the controversial photographer Robert Mapplethorpe. Friends Reading Group discussions are open to everyone. *(Library)*

23. Officers in Meetings:

- On May 18, Chief Ricucci attended the Montgomery County Police Law Enforcement Memorial Service at the Public Safety Training Academy; the Chief also held his monthly Chief’s Advisory Board meeting.
- On May 19, Chief Ricucci, Gang Investigator Pfc. Hoetzel and Victim Witness Coordinator Diana Dean, along with the Recreation Department, State’s Attorney’s Office, Parole & Probation and County Social Services, held an intervention for a City juvenile resident; Capt. Coursey participated in a Montgomery County Emergency Management Group tabletop hurricane exercise. Although the one day portion of the exercise was self-contained, the steps undertaken in the preceding days provided an opportunity for a variety of staff to participate in reviewing their roles in emergency management on behalf of the City. *(Police)*

24. Officers in Training:

- On May 16, various sworn personnel at the police department attended 2011 Spring Range Firearms Training in Sykesville, Maryland; Sgt. Andrew John began a five-day Instructor Program at the Public Safety Education and Training Center in Sykesville, Maryland. *(Police)*

25. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (May 13-19, 2011) may be viewed online at:

http://tppolice.blogspot.com/2011/05/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_20.html.

(Police)

26. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 174 traffic stops, which resulted in citations and one Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest from traffic.

During May 10-20, 2011, the following details were completed:

May 10, 2011

- 7500 block of Maple Avenue (wrong way/one way street) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).

May 11, 2011

- Jackson Avenue & Ethan Allen Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.
- 1100 block of University Boulevard (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

May 12, 2011

- Flower Avenue & Jackson Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- Various locations in the City (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a detail at various times throughout the day and issued one State citation.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- New Hampshire Avenue & Holton Lane (no u-turn) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- 1100 block of University Boulevard (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a five-hour detail and issued five State citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations and one warning.

May 13, 2011

- Jackson Avenue & Flower Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.

May 14, 2011

- Flower Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.
- Philadelphia Avenue & Holly Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.
- 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations for seatbelt violations and two other State citations.
- Erskine Street & 13th Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- Erskine Street & 13th Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and

issued no citations or warnings.

May 15, 2011

- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 90-minute detail and issued five State citations.
- Flower Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.

May 16, 2011

- Philadelphia Avenue & Holly Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.
- Philadelphia Avenue & Holly Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- Flower Avenue & Houston Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a detail at various times and issued four State citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations for seatbelt violations and six other State citations.

May 17, 2011

- Maple Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued four State citations.
- Flower Avenue & Piney Branch Road (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.
- East West Highway & New Hampshire Avenue (improper turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations for seatbelt violations and two other State citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a three-hour detail and issued nine State citations for seatbelt violations, seven other State citations and one warning.

May 18, 2011

- 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued four State citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue & New Hampshire Avenue (seatbelt enforcement) - conducted a three and a half-hour detail and issued 20 State citations for seatbelt violations and seven other State citations.
- Prince George's Avenue & Circle Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- Prince George's Avenue & Circle Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.

May 19, 2011

- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a two and a half-hour detail and issued five State citations.
- 7500-7700 blocks of Maple Avenue (equipment violations) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued five warnings.

May 20, 2011

- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.

(Police)

27. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):

Week ending 5/19/11

Hours worked: 48

Calls for service: 6

State Citations issued: 122

Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SEROs) issued: 7

Warnings: 1

City tickets: 4

Reports: 8

Warrant arrests: 1

Court: 2.5 hours

(Police)